

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the Application.

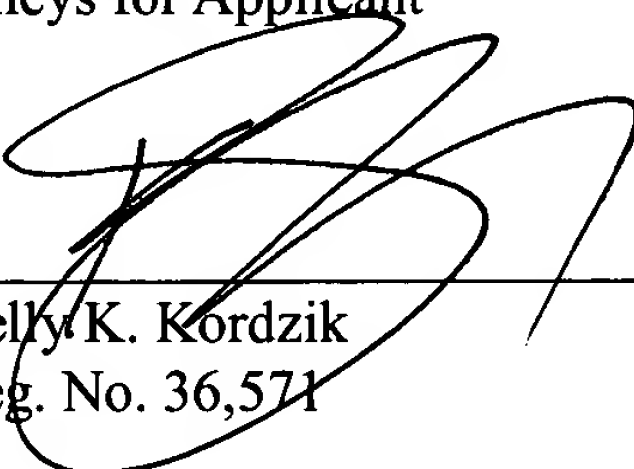
Claims 1-21 stand rejected.

The Examiner has rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Maleck et al.* (U.S. Patent no. 6,611,912). As the Examiner agreed in a phone message on June 1, 2005 to Applicants' attorney, *Maleck* is not prior art to the present application, since *Maleck* does not fall within any of the paragraphs under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

As a result of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully assert that the claims are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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